

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 5 of the specification to replace "pivot end 22" with "lever arm pivot end 22"

Actuating lever 12 supports a lever arm 19 by a lever arm pivot pin 20 positioned adjacent the distal end 15 of actuating lever 12. Lever arm 19 has a distal, finger-contacting end 21 (also called an actuating end) and a lever arm pivot end 22 (see Figure 1B). Lever arm 19 also has a forward facing surface 23 (see FIG. 1B) which contacts contacting member 24 when lever arm 19 is moved in a forward direction indicated by arrow 25 and described in more detail below. In a manner analogous to the action of the buckle shown in U.S. Patent No. 5,857,247, the buckle has a passageway 26 for insertion of a parachute strap holding tang not shown. This tang contacts tang tooth 27 which is lowered as latch 16 is moved in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 28. When the distal, finger-contacting end of lever arm 21 is moved in a rearward direction as indicated by arrow 29, the contacting end 30 (see Figure 3) of actuating lever 12 prevents the lever arm 19 from pivoting about pivot pin 20 and instead, causes the actuating lever 12 to move in a counter clockwise direction as shown in Figure 1 about actuating lever pivot pin 13.